

PITTSBURGH Sanitized - Approved For Release
PRESS

E-345,762
S-739,431

SEP 1 1967

CIA Asks To Probe Employees

Senate Protects Personal Lives

By MARSHALL McNEIL
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer
THE Central Intelligence
Agency (CIA) wants its spies
to be left out in the cold.



It is asking the Senate for exemption from terms of the proposed "bill of rights" to protect Federal Government employees from Mr. McNeil's uninhibited grilling about intimate details of their family relations, sex life and religion.

The CIA request has caused the leadership to delay debate on the "bill of rights," a measure co-sponsored by 50 senators and recommended by the Judiciary Committee.

Thus CIA, swathed in the secrecy said to be so essential to success in the shadowy crafts of spies and counter-spies, has stirred up another public fuss, plus the ire of that old parliamentary battler, Sen. Sam Ervin, North Carolina Democrat.

And the threat has been made that if CIA persists in its request, in which it is joined by that other super-secret bureau, the National Security Agency (NSA), both may endanger the partial exemptions already written into the bill for them.

The courtly Sen. Ervin discovered some time ago that to get a Federal job some young applicants were required to take lie-detector tests and answer intimate questions.

CPYRGHT

Race, Religion

The bill, product of long hearings by Sen. Ervin's constitutional rights subcommittee, would put an end to such questioning.

It would also prohibit indiscriminate requirements that employees and applicants for Government employment disclose their race, religion or national origin; participation in outside activities unrelated to their employment; reports on their outside activities, or support of political candidates.

It would make it illegal to coerce an employee to buy bonds or make charitable contributions or to require him to disclose his personal assets, liabilities or expenditures or those of any member of his family unless such items would tend to show a conflict of interests.

"Why," asked Sen. Ervin, "do these two agencies want the license to coerce their employees to contribute to charity and to buy bonds?"

Personal Questions

"Do they not know how to evaluate a secretary for employment without asking her . . . if she loved her mother, if she goes to church every week, if she believes in God, if she believes in the second coming of Christ, if her sex life is satisfactory . . . what she dreams about, and many other extraneous matters?"

Moreover, Sen. Ervin said, the bill already allows CIA and NSA to use lie detector or psychological tests to elicit information from an employee or applicant on his personal relations with any person connected with him by blood or marriage, his religious beliefs, or his attitude or conduct with respect to sexual matters.

"The basic premise of (the 'bill of rights') is that a man who works for the Federal Government sells his services, not his soul," Sen. Ervin said.